

description of the clinical material, the work proceeds to discussions of the metabolism of iodine, physiological principles governing thyroid function, and newer methods of evaluating thyroid function, including application of isotope techniques.

The investigation of the Mendoza subjects is reported in considerable detail and includes observations of the effects of treatment with iodine, thyroid, antithyroid drugs, and thyrotropin.

Summaries and useful bibliographies are included at the end of each chapter, and a final summary chapter serves as a useful review and outlines areas of suggested research.

This book is a classic in its field and is destined to remain an outstanding reference source in the fields of endocrinology and metabolism for many years to come. It can be highly recommended to interested medical students, practicing physicians, endocrinologists, biophysicists, and biochemists.

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PEDIATRIC PROBLEMS IN CLINICAL PRACTICE—Special Medical and Psychological Aspects. H. Michal-Smith, Ph.D., Editor, Research Associate in Pediatrics, New York Medical College, Chief Clinical Psychologist, Flower and Fifth Avenue Hospital, Grune & Stratton, New York, 1954. 310 pages, \$5.50.

The special types of problems dealt with in this book are those of the child who is emotionally disturbed, schizophrenic, mentally retarded, brain-injured, orthopedically handicapped, allergic, diabetic, epileptic, tubercular, or handicapped for cardiac reasons or by cerebral palsy. Each such child has a chapter devoted to him, written by one of the 13 contributors to the volume. The author has written an interesting chapter on the mentally retarded child. Other contributors include Arnold Gesell, Laretta Bender, Priscilla White, William Lennox, Bret Ratner, Winthrop Phelps and several others.

The volume should make a useful addition to the library of those pediatricians or other physicians dealing with children handicapped by the problems mentioned.

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SYNOPSIS OF ANESTHESIA, A—3rd Edition. J. Alfred Lee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., M.M.S.A., D.A., F.F.A.R.C.S., Consultant Anesthetist to the Southend-on-Sea Hospital, etc. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1953. 483 pages, \$3.50.

This book is essentially a compendium of knowledge in the field of anesthesiology. As such, it fills a great need in the library of the expert, occasional and resident anesthesiologist in providing accurate surveys in outline and short discussion form the basic information required to understand the ever-broadening field of anesthesiology. A great deal of reference material is cited for further reading; of necessity the bulk of the material so listed is from foreign journals. Most of these are, however, available in any library maintained by local medical societies.

A great many of the chapters have been enlarged and expanded from the second edition of this book and two short chapters have been added; one on the reduction of bleeding during operations and the other on the therapeutic aspects of anesthesia. These are short but packed with information.

Of minor nuisance value is the continued use of a nomenclature common to the British Isles. American synonyms are included frequently enough to prevent complete bewilderment, but it would be of great assistance to refer to body weight in "pounds" rather than the more unfamiliar and cumbersome "stone." A great many pages are devoted to the description and operation of English apparatus not likely to be found in this country. Aside from these minor

faults which can be quickly omitted without great loss of time, this book contains more information of an accurate nature than any other we have found.

The chapters on anatomy, physiology and pharmacology are gems and the precision and thoroughness of their presentation can well make some larger, more pretentious textbooks blush for shame.

On the whole, the book is stimulating and as complete as an expanded outline can be. We heartily recommend it to anyone working or interested in the field of anesthesiology.

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MODERN TRENDS IN DERMATOLOGY (Second Series). Edited by R. M. B. MacKenna, M.A., M.D.(Camb.), F.R.C.P.(Lond.), Physician in Charge, Dermatological Department, St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Paul B. Hoeber, Inc., New York, 1954. 338 pages, \$12.00.

This book is as outstanding as the first edition. Seventeen separate essays by seventeen authors review and bring up-to-date important developments in the field of dermatology.

Chapter I presents a scholarly presentation of ecology in relationship to dermatology. Chapter II, in a critical evaluation of psychosomatic medicine in relationship to dermatology, is the best review of this subject which has appeared in years. Haserick's chapter on the blood factors in lupus erythematosus is beautifully illustrated and clearly written. New developments such as cyto diagnosis in dermatology, the pathogenesis of tinea capitis and beta-ray therapy are handled in a scholarly fashion.

A book of this sort is extremely useful in the sense of a complete, up-to-date, interpretative view of the modern trends which may have escaped the attention of one who does not have an opportunity to read widely the medical journals of the world.

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DERMATOLOGIC MEDICATIONS. Marguerite Rush Lerner, M.D., Resident, Department of Dermatology, and Aaron Bunsen Lerner, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor of Dermatology, University of Oregon Medical School, Portland. The Year Book Publishers, Inc., 200 East Illinois, Chicago, 1954. 183 pages, \$3.00.

This is a handbook intended as a reference for students and busy practitioners who desire useful and up-to-date information on dermatologic therapeutics.

The publication is divided into two sections: therapeutic agents, and treatment regimens. In the first section, commonly used agents are discussed as to indications, chemical structure, mode of action in skin disease, and application. In the second section, therapeutic regimens are outlined for various common dermatoses.

By limiting the information to a practical basis, the authors have succeeded in limiting the size of the volume, yet it is surprisingly complete.

This handbook can be recommended to students and busy practitioners, regardless of specialty, who are interested in skin disease.

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HANDBOOK ON DISEASES OF CHILDREN—Including Dietetics and the Common Fevers—7th Edition. Bruce Williamson, M.D. (Edin.), F.R.C.P. (Lond.), Physician, Children's Department, Royal Northern Hospital. E. & S. Livingstone Ltd.; distributed in U.S.A. by Williams and Wilkins Co., Baltimore, 1953. 467 pages, \$5.00.

This Handbook on Diseases of Children is in its seventh edition. Appearing first in 1933, it has been periodically revised. Many of the viewpoints expressed are not in conformity with current American thinking. It should be more popular among the older practitioners of the British Empire than with recent graduates from schools of this country.